

CITY MAY ERECT OWN GASLIGHT PLANT

POSSES HUNT FOR NEGRO SLAYER OF ARLINGTON DEPUTY

F. F. Appleberry Shot by Black He Was Trying to Arrest. Indignant Citizens May Give Summary Justice.

Poses and officers Saturday were scouring the north end of the county for Alex Whitmore, negro, who Friday afternoon shot and fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff F. F. Appleberry when the latter attempted to arrest the black, three miles north of Arlington on the Covington pike. The negro made his escape and at noon Saturday the searching parties had no trace of him.

Sheriff Perry, Deputies Goswick, Palmer and Mahon, from the courthouse and other officers from Arlington, went over carefully every inch of ground from where the shooting took place on the Paul Rattle place to Heavard's bottom, but bloodhounds lost track of Whitmore. No trace of the black was discovered.

Deputies from the sheriff's office were rushed to a spot some miles north of Arlington, early Saturday, following a tip that the negro had been surrounded by citizens and that a battle was imminent. This tip, however, proved false.

Appleberry was well thought of in Arlington, and it was said that if citizens capture Whitmore summary vengeance may be meted out.

The officer died Friday night at 11 o'clock, seven hours after he was shot.

Appleberry had a warrant for Whitmore sworn out before Squire W. S. McCormick charging him with disturbing the peace. The deputy left Squire McCormick's court and rode to the black's home. He ordered Whitmore to come with him. Appleberry remained seated in his buggy and without a word the negro raised a shotgun and fired once. The shot took effect in the pit of the stomach. The deputy did not have time to use his pistol which was on the seat beside him.

Deputy Appleberry fell from the buggy, but regained his feet and clambering back into the vehicle started to drive back to Arlington. A short distance en route a negro named Gilbert Tate, who is said to be the officer, the horse shied at something, and a runaway resulted. Both were thrown from the buggy, and the negro dismounted and disarmed Appleberry. The two caught the horse and then drove to the Appleberry residence in Arlington.

After Sheriff McCormick walked into his home and undressed himself, Squire McCormick, who also is a physician, was summoned to a medical aid. Physicians from Memphis were summoned and operated Friday night. Appleberry died under the knife.

Dogs Lose Trail.
A posse was hastily formed and trailed Whitmore to a point about six miles north of Arlington toward Covington. Here the trail was lost. It was said that Whitmore had a sister living near Covington.

Deputy Appleberry had been an officer in Squire McCormick's court for nine years. He first became a deputy under Sheriff Calen Tate, a wife and one son, Thomas, 14 years of age, survive. Appleberry was 35 years of age.

Whitmore, according to men at Arlington, is a bad negro. He is said to have shot a white man in Arkansas several years ago. None was seen in Arlington who had seen the negro after Friday's shooting. He is thought to be making his way through the bottom lands along Heavard creek, toward either the Tipton county or Fayette county line.

Sheriff Perry said he would visit the governor at Nashville asking for a \$200 reward be offered for his capture. The black is described as six feet tall, weighing 165 pounds, large nose and eyes, thick lips and sometimes wears a small, floppy mustache. He is ginger-colored in color.

MEMPHIS LEADS IN PRICE DROP THROUGH U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—A further decrease of 21 per cent in retail food prices in November as compared with October was reported today by the department of labor's bureau of statistics. Decreases were noted in all of the 61 cities for which monthly figures were tabulated, with the greatest decrease, 5 per cent, shown in Memphis.

In Birmingham and Seattle, decreases were 4 per cent; in Atlanta, butte, Charleston, Cleveland, Dallas, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Little Rock, Louisville, Manchester, Minneapolis, Mobile, New Haven, Richmond, St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, Detroit, Fall River, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Norfolk, Omaha, Philadelphia, Portland, Maine, Portland, Ore., Providence, St. Paul, and St. Louis, the decrease was 2 per cent. In Boston, Bridgeport, Columbus, Newark, N. Y.; Peoria, Pittsburg, Rochester, San Francisco, Scranton and Washington, the decrease was 1 per cent. The decrease in Springfield, Ill., was less than five-tenths of one per cent.

SUNDAY WILL BE FAIR, SAYS SCOTT
Fair weather will prevail in Memphis and vicinity Saturday night, Sunday will probably see the usual Sabbath showers, according to Local Forecaster Scott. Little change will be noted in the present temperature.

The stage of the river Saturday morning at 7 o'clock was 12.5 feet, indicating a rise of about .5 of a foot during the last 24 hours.

COTTON SITUATION STILL VERY GRAVE EXPERT DECLARES

Dr. Bradford Knapp of University of Arkansas Insists That Cotton Acreage Reduction Is Vital to South.

BY JAMES GABELLE.

Dr. Bradford Knapp, dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas and Director of the state experimental station, of that state, whose speech on the cotton situation aroused favorable comment at the cotton convention recently held here, was in the city Saturday to confer with representatives from various points in Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi, including Prof. J. C. McAmis, of Knoxville, Tenn.; R. S. Wilson, director of extension of Mississippi, and H. S. Nichols, district agent in charge of agricultural work in West Tennessee, in regard to the practicability of the suggestions made last week.

"The cotton convention went on record for a 50 per cent reduction in cotton," Dr. Knapp declared. "Now we must go out and tell farmers what to do with the rest of their land. The cotton situation at present is at a standstill. The Federal Exporters corporation is doing a great deal of good for us all in getting a market for products abroad. If it is necessary foreign nations should be given credits. Our federal government made a great mistake in shutting down on credits. Congress, however, has done the right thing, in promptly establishing the finance corporation. It is a decided boon to farmers. The object of this corporation is to extend credit to foreign countries for the furthering of our commerce with them. It is doing a splendid work."

"The cotton situation is still grave. Over 4,000,000 spindles are idle in Germany, British mills as well as our own have cut down on the consumption of cotton. New England mills are all running on short time. There is no doubt a legitimate reason. The people are not buying cotton goods."

"The South has been severely criticized for carrying on campaigns for the reduction of cotton acreage, such campaigns, when conducted upon a broad, business-like basis, are sound under existing circumstances. If we only had a better balanced system of agriculture such as I have repeatedly described in previous bulletins on 'safe farming' there would be no compelling necessity for so drastic a curtailment of cotton acreage in one year. If farming were on a cash basis instead of a credit basis, if we had our own food and feed and something else besides cotton, the disasters incident to wide fluctuations in the cotton market would not bear down heavy upon us and, hence, there would be less necessity for adjustment in acreage."

"Every time a great disaster occurs in the South our business men and farmers both turn frantically to a campaign for the production of food and feed. There are some of us who have 'stayed put' all the time. We have never changed our notions. We have sung this song of safety whether cotton was high or low. I firmly believe that in the long run greater prosperity will come to the cotton area when it holds down its acreage in cotton and centers its attention upon wiser business methods."

"SUNNY JIM" JOINS POLICE MOTOR CLUB
Available Bachelor Forced to Tell Age to Cops.

"How the mighty hath fallen," murmured Capt. Will Lee, when a motorcop trailed in with a misadventurous victim. Then he added: "Howdy, Jim."

Yes, girls, you've guessed it. The lawbreaker was "Sunny Jim" Hawkins. He'd committed the heinous offense of running with the spotlight on his auto lighted. He braggedly admitted his guilt, carefully peeled a \$10 bill off his roll as forfeit, and departed.

Quoth Sunny Jim. "The only thing I regret is that I had to tell my age." It's on the police blotter, girls, if the age of an available bachelor interests you.

Bombs Damage Two Apartment Houses As Janitors Strike
(By International News Service.)

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 18.—Violence broke out today in the result of the breaking off of peace negotiations between the janitors' union and the employers. Fifteen thousand families, it is estimated, are housed in the buildings affected.

"Long Chain Man" Pays Visit Here
The "long chain man" of the state penitentiary at Nashville paid the Shelby county jail a visit Friday and left during the day, having in custody eight prisoners who will begin sentences recently imposed or affirmed.

C. H. Raine, convicted of fraudulent breach of trust, whose case was affirmed by the supreme court last Saturday, was taken to the local reformatory Saturday, as well as Walter Patton, alias Paddy Mack, and John Rogers, alias Sleepy John, convicted of attempted criminal assault upon Hazel Gray, were perhaps the best known of the eight prisoners. The others taken to Nashville were: Will Morehead, Julius Lamb, W. A. Waters, Charles Thomas and Sam Snell.

BRUTES AND "BEAUTS"



Hazel Whitmore, wife of the slain deputy sheriff, is seen here.

Women held the right of way before the Shelby delegation to the legislature at the open hearing in the county courtroom Saturday morning. The courtroom was comfortably filled with people, about nine-tenths of whom were women.

They benched the legislators-elect with appeals for legislation and in a majority of instances were promised support. Senator Fuller, who, maybe, has been a married man longer than the rest of the delegation, had the temerity to ask many questions regarding the bills, and to point out some of the obstacles which they would encounter, but the remainder of the delegation was able to show that either the arguments or the charms of the pleaders.

The Nurses' association wanted support of a law to protect the standard of nursing so that nurses would not leave Tennessee. The bill provides for a commission for the examination of nurses. Inasmuch as the nurses were able to show that the public would be protected by the bill, the delegation promised support.

Amend Juvenile Court.
Miss Sample, chief nurse of the city health department, was the principal speaker. The delegation included Mrs. R. Brinkley Snowden, Mrs. J. M. McCormick, and Miss Frances Church, who are honorary members of the association.

Judge Camille Kelley, of juvenile court, appeared in the interest of the Parent-Teacher federation, representing, as she said, 3,600 mothers, to urge amendment to the juvenile court law and a state-wide mothers' pension law.

Judge Kelley said that a state-wide juvenile court law would be presented to the legislature, but that its provisions were not so far-reaching as to cover all the conditions existing in Shelby county, and for this reason, she desired a law applicable to Shelby. Senator Fuller said that inasmuch as there was a state-wide law to be passed, he failed to see the necessity for a local law.

W. C. A. and the League of Women Voters, asked support of bills which would abolish the sole guardianship of a father over a minor child, and substitute a bill providing that husband and wife, while living together, should be joint guardians; a compulsory part-time educational law for employed boys and girls; full representation of women on all boards or commissions dealing with the welfare of women and children; and a law under which the city commission may regulate the charges of all hospitals within the city limits supported entirely or in part by public subsidies.

Attacks Hospital Charges.
Mrs. Puryear, said that things had come to such a pass that a sick person must go to a hospital, as the nurses were refusing to take cases in the homes and the doctors all attended the hospitals. Charges made by these hospitals were characterized as outrageous. She said that board charges in most cases was as high as \$6 to \$7 per day. Nurse board is in addition, she said.

T. H. Lasbrook asked the delegation to take steps to amend the Jim Crow laws. Mr. Lasbrook was asked to confer with Leonard Johnson, of the city commission; Rosa W. Harris, traffic expert, and street railway officials and frame a bill for presentation.

A negro delegation asked support for a law establishing a state reform school for negro girls. Commissioner Thomas H. Allen appeared to ask legislation to permit the city to issue \$1,750,000 in bonds for improvements.

JUDGE HOLDS DOG TAX LAW CONSTITUTIONAL
(Special to The News-Scimitar.)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 18.—Justice Hall in the supreme court today handed down a decision holding that the dog law is constitutional and valid. The case was that of the State of Tennessee against the Anderson county tax assessor of London county, who was under indictment for failure to collect taxes under the act.

The indictment was brought by the state against Anderson was quashed in the lower court, it holding the dog law, chapter 61, acts of 1919, not valid. The supreme court reversed the lower court and remanded the case for trial.

Justice Nathan Bachman and Special Justice L. D. Smith dissented in the opinion.

Let There Be Something Besides Holes In Stockings Poor Children Hang Up

BY A GOODFELLOW.

Still they come, continuing to pour in with every mail in every increasing volume. These letters of appeal to the Goodfellows Santa Claus club tell a tale of woe and misery. They are from the homes of the city's poor, from poverty row, where Christmas means little other than daddy is dead. My mother works very hard and is trying to keep us in school. I want you to send my brother and sister something if you don't send me anything. Just something so they will have a Christmas.

Here are two rattling Goodfellows, J. W. King and J. A. Trotter. Both are live boosters for Memphis and live boosters for the Santa Claus club. King and Trotter Friday turned over to the Goodfellows checks they received as awards in the Chamber of Commerce membership drive just closed.

King, as vice-chairman of zone seven in the drive, was the man who secured most members in the quarter just ended. Also he won the prize for the greatest amount of cash collected. These prizes totaled \$50.

FAIR SEX STORM CHURCHY SOLONS AT OPEN MEETING

Nurses Stress Raising of Standard in State by Legislative Action—Ask Change in Juvenile Court Regulation

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Goodfellow Dinners

The following will be provided with turkey dinners and all that goes with it for the following nations Christmas day: Porter Home and Leath, Orphan asylum, Cripple Children's Hospital, school, Home Incubator, Old Men's home, Old Ladies home, St. Peter's orphanage, Home of the Good Shepherd, Wesley house, Juvenile court, clergy ward patients of all hospitals.

Cigar, cigars and tobacco will be provided for the Marine hospital.

The following will be provided for the Christmas trees at the Juvenile court and the Wesley house.

Groceries and other things will be provided for the Church home as the ladies of Calvary church have arranged to provide the Christmas dinner.

RUMOR OFFICIALS SEEK PARDON FOR GARMEN-SLAYERS

Guilt in Street Car Strike Killing Affirmed, But "Gunmen" Avoid Penitentiary and Stay in Jail.

Indignant visitors at the courthouse Saturday debated the question of why unfortunate individuals should be amenable to the vagaries of the law, while others whose guilt had been proven as positively should be favored.

The indignation was aroused when it was learned that seven men, convicted as street car "gunmen," for the killing of John Cooper Benson, union morman in 1916, had not been taken to the state penitentiary Friday. Other prisoners, including C. Hunter Raine, "Paddy Mack" and "Sleepy John" Rodgers, whose sentences were affirmed at the same time as those of the seven, were shackled Friday and led away from the county jail to begin their terms in prison.

The official reason that the seven had not been put on the long chain and taken to the penitentiary, as given out Saturday was: "Their transfers have not been made out in Nashville."

Public Sentiment Aroused.
Rumor had it Saturday that officials of the Memphis Street Railway company were working for a pardon for the seven "gunmen."

The killing of Benson during the street car strike days in 1916, fanned a flame of public resentment against the men employed by the street car company and company officials. These employees generally were termed "gunmen" by the public, whose sympathy had gone out to the union, carmen in their fight for higher pay.

Benson was shot down from behind as he was fleeing from trouble at Vance avenue, Walnut street and the Southern railway crossing. Fourteen men were indicted for murder following the killing. A of these were charged with the killing of the street car company, who had remained loyal to the company in the strike.

The 14 men faced the same jury. Eight of them were found guilty of voluntary manslaughter, and sentenced to terms of two to ten years each in the penitentiary.

Other Cases Recent.
Their appeals hung fire in the supreme court until last Saturday, when cases against seven were affirmed. The eighth man had died, pending decision of his appeal.

The men held in the county jail, while other prisoners were led to the penitentiary Friday, are: W. A. Dilon, O. S. Cuff, Ned Russell, R. O. Dunlap, Walter Henderson, G. M. Litton and S. J. Smith.

It was hard for visitors at the courthouse Saturday to understand why C. Hunter Raine, John Rodgers and Walter Patton, who were sentenced to terms of more than a year, should be rushed immediately to the penitentiary, while the seven street car company employees, who were convicted in 1916, should be kept in jail here.

The rumor that car company officials were seeking a pardon for the men caused much indignation among the public that the men were pardoned it would be because of an inside ear in the governor's office, for they were said to be a great number of signatures from the public could be obtained on a pardon petition for the men, owing to public sentiment against them.

FIRST SESSION OF LEAGUE ASSEMBLY AT GENEVA CLOSES

(By The Associated Press.)
GENEVA, Dec. 18.—The first assembly of the League of Nations which had been in session here since Nov. 15, adjourned its sessions at 6:30 o'clock this evening.

EXPLOSIVE FOUND NEAR OIL COMPANY'S PLANT

LOUISIA, Ky., Dec. 18.—Twenty cartons of nitroglycerin were stolen from an oil company's magazine near Martha. Threats have been made by anonymous letters that the Ohio Fuel company oil pump would be blown up and a strong guard has been placed.

CONSUMERS TO SEEK LEGISLATIVE RELIEF FROM GIGANTIC BILLS

Public indignation, aroused over what the consumers claim is an exorbitant charge for gas and electric service, reached a high pitch Saturday when the November bills were received in households and by business firms. One result will be the introduction of a bill in the legislature in January authorizing the people to vote on the question of the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$1,500,000 for the construction of a municipally owned and operated gas and electric light plant.

As that the city had an option on the Merchants' Power company, which was to expire in 1916. About the time the city was preparing to either take over the company or construct a new plant, there were some outer suits and political maneuvers that defeated the project. Ashcroft became mayor and was approached with a threat to have the city thrown into the hands of receivers unless he abandoned the project for the construction of a gas plant and connected to a city utility company. The Merchants' Power company and the Consolidated Gas and Electric company. Ashcroft surrendered.

The bill of one firm for November is \$210. A year ago the bill was \$131.35. The head of this firm says that he used about 70 per cent as much gas in November, 1920, as he did in November, 1919. In his last comparative figures should be \$210 against \$95.

Another firm received a bill for \$203.35. For same month in 1919, the bill was \$119 and there was no occasion for an increase in the amount of gas consumed.

The increases shown by numerous firms of which figures were made shows a range of from 50 per cent to 300 per cent increase.

Astonishing Example.
There seems to be no reasonable explanation for the increase. One person of whom inquiry was made stated that the increase in October was so large that he abandoned the use of gas on the 18th of November, and yet his bill for November was twice the amount of the October bill.

Since that time the gas company has had its way. The people have accepted inadequate service and an inferior product with very little complaint until the receipt of the November bills which aroused so much public indignation.

The result is that the legislative delegation will be asked to introduce another bill authorizing the city of Memphis to construct its own gas and electric light plant and leave it to the people to vote on the question of a bond issue.

Dismantled Plant.
The company on which the city held an option and the other company consolidated. The Merchants' Power company was dismantled and scrapped. The legislature of 1915 repealed the bill authorizing the issuance of bonds for the erection of a municipally owned gas plant.

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SUPREME COURT REVERSES DOCTOR SCHOULTZ CASE
NASHVILLE, Dec. 18. (Sp.)—The supreme court today reversed and remanded the case of Ture W. Schults, Shelby county, charged with attempt to violate the age of consent law.

Schultz, testimony during the trial developed, was charged with having made indecent exposures and proposals to Central high school girls. He denied his guilt, claiming that the man identified by two high school pupils, must have been someone else.

STATE HIGH COURT AFFIRMS BIG CASES
(Special to The News-Scimitar.)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 18.—The supreme court today handed down decisions in the following Shelby county cases:

Norman vs. Harris vs. Galloway Coal Co., et al; affirmed.

This case involved the purchase of land in Alabama for development purposes and the issuance of \$100,000 in stock, which issue was subsequently canceled. The suit was brought 17 years ago to compel the stockholders to pay for their stock.

The case was dismissed in chambers, and the supreme court upheld the lower court.

Darnell Lumber Co. vs. R. J. Wiggs, affirmed.

This case involved \$150,000. The court of appeals sustained the lower court in its decision in favor of Wiggs and the supreme court, affirmed the court of appeals. Justice Buchanan and Special Justice Ed J. Smith dissented.

City of Memphis vs. Chamber of Commerce, transferred to court of appeals.

Henry Loeb & Co. vs. Belote & Co., court of appeals reversed and lower court affirmed.

Brang vs. Brach, affirmed.

Henry Harkin vs. W. J. Canady, reversed and dismissed.

Daniel Stockton vs. Memphis Street Railway company, 10 days given in which to file petition to rehear.

James E. Stark Lumber Co. vs. Kelley Wheel Co., petition to rehear denied.

Nannie B. Harris et al. vs. Galloway Coal Co., affirmed.

Darnell, Love Lumber Co. vs. R. J. Wiggs, court of appeals affirmed.

P. K. Norman et al. vs. Maude Hastings, reversed and dismissed.

SLEUTHS IN FAST CARS HUNT FOR GANGSTERS
(By The Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A flying squadron of 50 detectives was sent out today by Police Commissioner Richard E. Enright to aid in combating the crime wave which has called forth expressions of alarm from judges, city officials and civic and business organizations.

The detectives, equipped with high speed automobiles, were ordered to tour the city on the lookout for gangsters. Mr. Enright, however, in the police department's ability to cope with the situation and said the police are in control of the situation.

State's organizations today, however, were discussing emergency measures to insure adequate protection.

Lifer Must Spend Christmas Days Alone
CLEVELAND, Dec. 18.—George (Guss) Lottner, wounded and captured in the recent Bedford, O., bank robbery, was sentenced to life imprisonment with solitary confinement every Christmas day for the slaying of Patrolman Patrick Gaffney two years ago. Gaffney died Christmas day. The jury, after being 48 hours, returned a first degree murder verdict with mercy, recommending the Christmas solitary confinement.**WEATHER**
Fair Saturday;
Rain Sunday.**BULLETIN**
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